

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

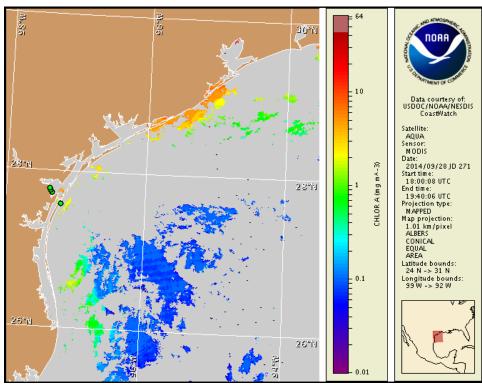
Monday, 29 September 2014

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Thursday, September 25, 2014



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from September 19 to 26: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). Cell count data are provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

 $Detailed \ sample \ information \ can \ be \ obtained \ through \ the \ Texas \ Parks \ and \ Wildlife \ Department \ at: \ http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us./landwater/water/environconcerns/hab/redtide/status.phtml$

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html

Conditions Report

Karenia brevis (commonly known as Texas red tide) ranges from not present to low concentrations along the coast of Texas. No respiratory irritation is expected alongshore Texas Monday, September 29 through Thursday, October 2.

Check http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html for recent, local observations.

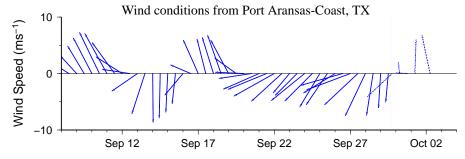
Analysis

Texas A&M University's Imaging FlowCytobot, located on the Port Aransas ship channel, indicates that *Karenia brevis* concentrations have decreased over the weekend and now range from 'not present' to 'background' where previous sampling detected up to 'low a' *K. brevis* concentrations last Thursday and Friday (TAMU; 9/25-9/29). Samples of *K. brevis* have not been reported from elsewhere along the Texas coast and further sampling alongshore is planned this week to confirm *K. brevis* is not present (TPWD; 9/29). No respiratory irritation or fish kills have been reported from alongshore the Texas coast over the last few days (TPWD; 9/25-9/29). For information on area shellfish restrictions, contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Recent MODIS Aqua imagery (9/28; shown left), is mostly obscured by clouds alongand offshore from Sabine Pass to the Rio Grande; however, elevated chlorophyll (1-5 μ g/L) is visible, in patches, along- and offshore from Galveston Island to the Matagorda Peninsula region.

Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate that the maximum bloom transport from coastal sample locations may be 80 km south from the Port Aransas region from September 28 through October 2.

Davis, Schneider, Kavanaugh

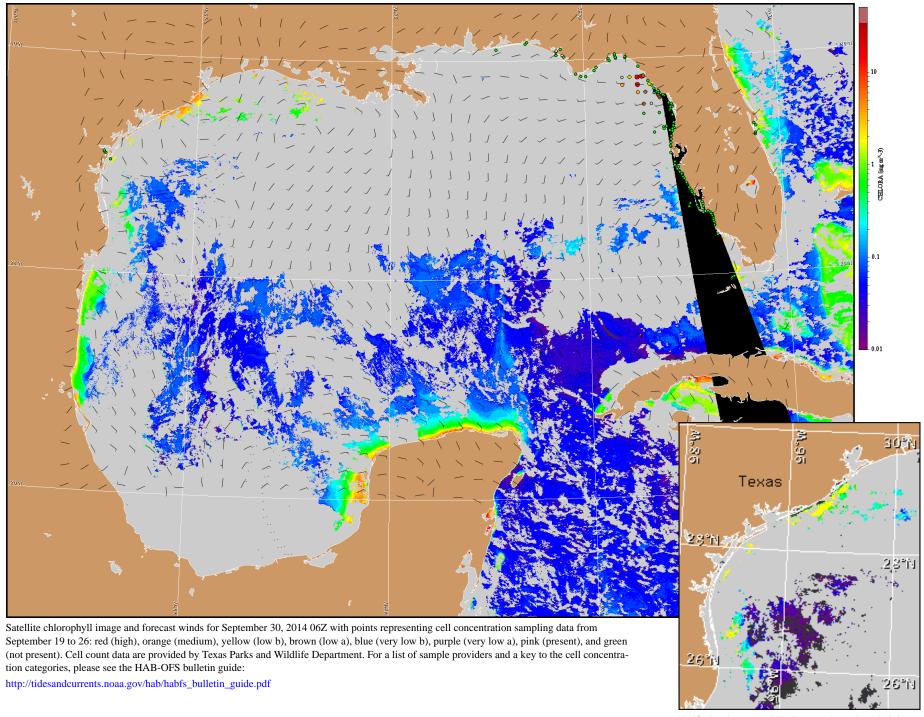


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

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Wind Analysis

Port Aransas: Northeast winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) today becoming southeast winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) tonight. East winds (5-10kn) Tuesday becoming southeast winds (10-15kn) Tuesday night through Wednesday. South winds (10-15kn) Thursday.



Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).